

OLC 81-0794/1  
15 April 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: See Distribution

25X1 FROM:   
Chief, Legislation Division, OLC

SUBJECT: S. 854, the "Foreign Missions Act of 1982"  
Introduced by Senator Charles H. Percy  
(R, IL), Chairman of the Senate Foreign  
Relations Committee

1. Attached for your review and oral comment is a copy of Subject Bill which would amend the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956 by adding a new Title II which would inter alia:

-- establish in the State Department a new independent "Office of Foreign Missions" with exclusive authority to deal -- on the basis of reciprocity -- with foreign missions to the U.S.;

-- grant the Secretary of State the authority to set the terms and conditions under which benefits (defined in 202(a)(1)) may be granted or denied a foreign mission;

-- grant the Director of the "Office of Foreign Missions" the authority to assist Federal, State and municipal governments with regard to ascertaining and according benefits, privileges and immunities to foreign missions.

Additionally the Bill's provisions could be made applicable to international organizations to the same extent it is applicable to foreign missions (section 209). Addressees are asked to take note of Senator Percy's introductory statement which precedes the Bill in the attached Congressional Record excerpt.

2. The Office of Management and Budget has asked for the Agency's official views on this legislation. I would ask that oral comments be made to [redacted] by COB, Tuesday, 21 April 1981 in order for us to respond in a timely fashion to OMB's deadline. We have been informed that this legislation is moving. State has managed to attach a similar version to its authorization bill in the House. Accordingly, immediate attention is dictated.

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Attachment

Distribution

- 1 - [redacted] (OGC)
  - 1 - [redacted] (C/PCS/DDO)
  - 1 - OLC Subject (file: Foreign Missions Act)
  - 1 - OLC Chrono
- OLC:GMC:sf (15 April 1981)

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